

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date:** September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 / 11:30 a.m.  
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**Correction:**

**Date and Time Added**

## **Olympia Man Dies In Collision In Rural Thurston County**

A 21 year-old Olympia man dies when his vehicle left the road and struck a tree at 6024 Steamboat Island Road Northwest. The roadway was blocked for several hours for the investigation.

The September 9<sup>th</sup> incident occurred at approximately 1:15 a.m. when the Ste Patrol began to receive report of a one car collision on Steamboat Island Road Northwest. Michael J. Butler, 21, of Olympia was driving a 2000 Toyota Camry southbound on Steamboat Island Road Northwest, a two lane roadway which was wet, when his vehicle went off the roadway to the left and struck a tree broadside. Sadly, Butler sustained life-threatening injuries and died at the scene. Investigators do believe alcohol was a factor in this tragic collision. Butler has a Suspended Driver's License and a prior arrest for Driving Under the Influence. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

While troopers were investigating this collision, a vehicle driven be 36 year-old Michelle R. Clark of Olympia, ran into a Fire Truck that was blocking the roadway at the fatal collision. Clark was not injured and was arrested for Driving Under the Influence.

**Next of Kin Has Been Notified**

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